

DECLASSIFIED  
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OFS PL IP/75752  
Lt Col Datnoff/75752

13 April 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF FOR MILITARY OPERATIONS

SUBJECT: Memorandum for the President: "Studies of Military and Non-Military Countermeasures in the Berlin Crisis" (S)

1. References:

a. Draft memorandum, subject as above, considered by the JCS (OFS DEPS), 10 April 1959.

b. Memorandum by Admiral Triebel for General Twining commenting on reference a, 10 April 1959.

c. JCS 1907/190, 7 April 1959 (reflecting tripartitely-agreed "Berlin Contingency Planning").

2. Paragraph 9 of reference 1c, "Initial Probe of Soviet Intentions," indicates that the first measure after interruption of Allied traffic will be a probe or probes "to determine whether the Soviets are prepared to use force . . . to prevent the passage of an allied movement . . . . The movement will proceed until its passage is physically obstructed. It will not fire unless fired upon, but if fired upon will take whatever defensive action seems necessary."

3. It is only after this "Initial Probe of Soviet Intentions" that subparagraph 3a of reference 1a becomes a valid description of the selection and timing of courses of action.

4. The last sentence of subparagraph 3a of Admiral Triebel's comments (reference 1b above) on the proposed Memorandum for the President is likewise incomplete for the reasons stated in paragraphs 2 and 3 above.

5. One explanation for the difficulty is the increasing use of the undefined term "unacceptable interference." As used in references 1a and 1b, "unacceptable interference" would appear to begin only after the "Initial Probe of Soviet Intentions" had been implemented. However, paragraph 9 of the Berlin contingency paper seems to indicate that "unacceptable interference" would probably begin when "Allied surface access is interrupted as a result of an attempt by GDR personnel to enforce formalities or controls going beyond those which the Three Powers have determined to be acceptable . . . ."

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6. While the military and non-military countermeasure papers being submitted to the President deal with action to reopen rather than test access to Berlin, it is considered desirable that the "initial probe" course of action be included as the first military measure following "unacceptable interference."

7. Basis for Classification: This paper is derived from JCS 1907/190.

for V. P. Moore, Col G-S.

J. K. WOOLNOUGH

Brigadier General, GS

Director of Plans, ODCSOPS

V. P. MOORE

Colonel, GS

Dep Director of Plans

ODCSOPS

Note to Gen. Moore:

I understand that Datnoff briefed you orally on this subject and that you asked for this recap in writing.

Moore

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